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Dresden: Treasures from the Saxon State Library

Also: Library Requests 5.8 Percent Increase for Fiscal 1997

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JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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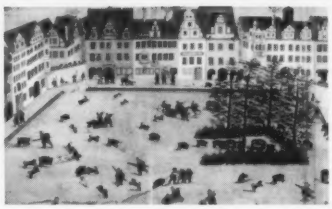

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GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
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1997 Budget Hearings:
The Library Asks for 5.8 Percent Increase

Dr. Billington this week asked Congress to approve a Library of Congress budget of $372,996,000, including the authority to spend $28.3 million in receipts, for fiscal year 1997, which begins Oct. 1.

The budget proposed by the Librarian represents an increase of 5.8 percent, or $20.6 million, over LC's FY 1996 budget of $352,399,000, including the authority to spend $27,699,000 in receipts. LC's authorized receipts come from the Copyright Office and the Cataloging Distribution Service.

Dr. Billington and senior Library officials appeared March 5 before Rep. Ron Packard's House Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee.

Dr. Billington told the panel: "I fully appreciate both the budget constraints put on other agencies and the continuing generosity of this Committee toward the Library, but I feel that I have an obligation as Librarian of Congress to point out . . . [that] we are reaching the point where the essential nature of this library will soon be threatened — even by a continuation of the relatively level budgets we have had for three of the last four years. . . .

"Using Congressional Budget Office assumptions about inflation and mandatory pay increases, the Library's budget would have to increase 19 percent by the year 2002 just to maintain current services, since 70 percent of our budget is for payroll cost. Continued level budgets would, by the year 2002, deprive the Library of resources to support more than 1,000 positions, in addition to the 369 lost between 1992 and 1995," Dr. Billington said.

Two-thirds, or $13.9 million, of the proposed increase in LC's funding is needed simply for mandatory pay and price-level increases. The remaining third, or $6.7 million, of the proposed increase includes funding for "growing workload increases" of:

- security of LC employees and the collections (44 full-time equivalent [FTE] positions at — $2,307,930),
- an expanded Inspector General's office (five FTEs — $887,636),
- automating LC's manual shelflist ($734,000) and serials records visible file ($750,000),
- computer programmers and others in Information Technology Services to keep up with LC's increased use of computer networks (six FTEs — $420,821),
- the Copyright Office Electronic Registration, Recordation and Deposit System (two FTEs — $500,000), and
- a centralized Braille Book Distribution System run by LC's National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped ($294,000).

Dr. Billington: "The Library serves the entire nation with the most important commodity of our time: knowledge and information."

Questions and Answers

Representative Packard (R-Calif.), chairman of the panel, said at the beginning of the two-hour hearing:

"I have a commitment to balance the federal budget in seven years and I can do that only with the help and cooperation of the agencies under this subcommittee. The Library of Congress was the only agency for which we did not impose a significant decrease in budget levels last year. I do not expect that to be the case this year."

The chairman then told the Librarian that he doesn't yet know what deficit reduction levels will be imposed upon him as an appropriations subcommittee chairman.

In addition to Mr. Packard, Reps. Vic Fazio (D-Calif.), Charles H. Taylor (R-N.C.), and Dan Miller (R-Fla.) attended the hearing in room H-144 of the Capitol. All praised the Library.

Mr. Taylor commended Dr. Billington and LC staff for their contributions to education by making information available electronically to sites around the country. He said he hoped the Library could continue to catalog and disseminate information electronically as quickly as possible. Mr. Taylor said he would like to see more funding for digital library efforts, and he wanted LC to look to the 21st century to take advantage of new technologies.

During the question-and-answer period, Mr. Fazio asked Dr. Billington and Register of Copyrights Marybeth Peters about various proposals to transfer the Copyright Office out of the Library and into the executive branch and what effect this would have on the Library.

"I can say categorically that such a transfer would be harmful to the country, bad for the legislative branch and disastrous for LC," Dr. Billington said.

Any separation or "scrambling" of the copyright registration and deposit functions would harm the Library, Dr. Billington said, adding that it would take at least $20 million to acquire the published items LC receives through copyright deposit. This includes neither the unpublished record, he said, nor the money necessary to pay people to search out, order and track items if they did not come in under copyright.

Ms. Peters echoed Dr. Billington's views. She told Mr. Fazio that she knew of no bills pending in Congress but that there had been "much talk." She said the Copyright Office, with approximately 600,000 copyrights secured each year, differs greatly from the Patent and Trademark Office, with its approximately 20,000 patents and 100,000 trademarks secured each year.

Mr. Fazio asked Dr. Billington about the postponement of the Freud exhibition and the removal of the "Back of the Big House" exhibition last December.

Dr. Billington noted misleading press reports linking the postponement to outside controversy over Freud.

"With the Freud exhibition," Dr. Billington said, "it was a question of not having the money raised as we hit the [original] countdown period. . . . This exhibition has been rescheduled for autumn of 1998."

"With the plantation-life exhibition," he said, "it was a no-win situation. . . . As a small, traveling exhibit, it was not originally scheduled to be shown at LC. There was a small envelope of down time and it was put up without much publicity in advance. It was not put up in a normal exhibit space, and a number of employees were offended. . . .

"In the long run, [removal] was better for the health and healing process of the [Library]," Dr. Billington said.

Reps. Packard, Fazio and Taylor all asked about measures the Library was taking to improve security. Dr. Billington cited LC's plans for establishing better "perimeter control," as recommended by the Computer Sciences Corp. study, at places such as the Library's storage facility in suburban Maryland and LC's Madison Building loading dock. The Library is also installing more video cameras, theft detection gates and door alarms. It is taking other measures in reading rooms — limiting seating to observable areas and requiring patrons to use "reader ID" cards with photos and leave their belongings in cloakrooms. The proposed budget also includes a request for more police officers, he said, due partially to the Jefferson Building reopening in 1997.

– *Edward Ohnemus*

Edward Ohnemus is assistant editor of The Gazette, *the Library's staff newspaper.*

"The Library of Congress faces the extraordinary challenge of rapidly institutionalizing new electronic services while sustaining its traditional services to Congress and the nation."

Following is the full text of Dr. Billington's testimony:

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee:

I appreciate the opportunity to appear here to discuss the Library of Congress budget request for fiscal year 1997.

The Library of Congress is the world's largest and most varied treasure chest of information, knowledge and creativity. It is a resource of incalculable value to the United States in the information age.

These simple, stunning facts put an unusually heavy burden of responsibility on those of us who administer this unique institution and on the Congress which created it, governs it, and determines its level of support.

The Library is fundamentally different from any other institution in the legislative branch of government. It directly serves not only Congress, but the entire nation with the most important commodity of our time: knowledge and information. Our national health depends: (1) on our collective economic productivity, which is increasingly based on information; and (2) on our creative use of individual freedom, which increasingly requires more lifelong learning by more people.

The Library of Congress has developed over 196 years massive collections, institutional networks and a knowledgeable staff that give it a unique potential unmatched by any other institution for making almost any kind of knowledge and information accessible to almost anyone almost anywhere. Thus, evaluation of its budget requires not only understanding what the Library is doing now, but also realizing that decisions made now will increasingly affect what the Library will or will not be able to do in the future. Most major functions currently exercised or under consideration by the Library are unlikely to be taken up by any other foreseeable institution if they are not performed by the Library of Congress.

The Library's central institutional value is service. Its mission is to sustain its universal collection and to make it useful to Congress and the nation. Its key priorities are, first, service to Congress for its current needs; second, sustaining a universal collection for the present and future needs of the nation; and third, making its collections and staff ever more useful to more people in libraries, schools, businesses and homes throughout the country.

The Library of Congress budget for fiscal year 1997 supports its mission and priorities and requests a total appropriation of $373 million (including $28.3 million in authority to use receipts), an increase of $20.6 million, or 5.8 percent, over fiscal 1996. Two-thirds, or $13.9 million, of the total increase is required simply to fund mandatory pay raises and unavoidable price-level increases. The remaining third, $6.7 million, is request-ed to fund strategic priorities, including ensuring the security of the collections and the transition to the electronic information age.

The Library of Congress currently faces the extraordinary challenge of rapidly institutionalizing new electronic services while sustaining its traditional services to Congress and the nation.

After extensive internal and external studies, the Library developed a broad strategic plan in 1992, which assigned top priority for 1993-96 to four long-neglected basic needs of the traditional library: financial management improvement, arrearage reduction, strengthening collections security,

(Cont. on p. 89)

Major Milestone:

Copyright Office Receives First Digital Deposit

After three years of analysis, design, development and internal testing of the Copyright Office Electronic Registration, Recordation and Deposit System (CORDS), the Copyright Office on Feb. 27 received its first digital copyright application and deposit using the new system.

CORDS is a multiphase project to develop and implement a totally electronic system for processing copyright applications, deposited works, related documents and rights management information over international communications networks such as the Internet. The first digital deposit was an unpublished computer science dissertation, *Signature and Specification Matching*, written by Amy Moormann Zaremski and filed from Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

"Service to Congress and the nation will be improved" by CORDS, said Register of Copyrights Marybeth Peters. "Works in digital form and associated rights management information needed for required licensing and permissions will be made available much more quickly than in the past."

Copyright Office staff were on site at both the origin of the first submission — Carnegie-Mellon — and the destination — the Copyright Office — during the first transmission. Ms. Zaremski herself filed her application and deposit. Acting Literary Section Head Melissa Dadant and Dave Ely of the Corporation for National Research Initiatives (CNRI) traveled to Pittsburgh to advise on the initial transmission. Mr. Ely, the chief technical expert and primary CORDS software developer from CNRI, coordinated technical details of the software texting. Ms. Zaremski herself filed her application and deposit.

Members of the Library's CORDS implementation team gathered at the Copyright Office to receive and review the transmissions. The team includes staff from the CORDS Working Group on Operations, the CORDS Working Policy Committee, the Copyright Office and the Library's Information Technology Services division.

Since fiscal year 1993, the Copyright Office, the Library of Congress and CNRI have been cooperating on the creation of CORDS. Developing the testbed system under contract from the Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Library, CNRI is leading a national effort with the Copyright Office to develop an infrastructure for linking digital works in electronic libraries and other transaction-based systems. Six universities are cooperating in Phase I, which is limited to copyright registration and deposit of unpublished technical reports on computer science.

The CORDS team will analyze the lessons learned from the first external transmission, make necessary modifications to the software, receive additional applications and deposits from Carnegie-Mellon and then begin to expand Phase I to include the other participating universities.

In future test phases over the next few years, the Copyright Office will seek the cooperation of several small groups of copyright owners. Subsequent phases of testing will include other formats of copyrighted works, starting with a limited number of published text works and adding text with graphics, images, sound recordings, video and other formats.

These test phases will continue while the Internet itself is maturing. Expansion of the Internet's bandwidth and increased speed of transmitting huge numbers of large data files simultaneously are essential features for efficient future CORDS transmissions.

CORDS will allow applicants to submit copyright applications and deposit their works electronically. Claimants will file their applications and deposit materials in machine-readable format, "sign" their submissions using public key/private key encryption technology and send the applications and deposits to the Copyright Office over the Internet using Privacy Enhanced Mail.

CORDS will then enter the information into COINS (the Copyright Office In-Process System), debit the remitter's deposit account and create a RIP (Receipt In Process, stating that the application, fee and deposit were received), all electronically.

In addition, using CORDS, Copyright Office staff will be able to examine and catalog copyright applications

(Cont. on p. 74)

Fourth Goldman Lecturer Will Explore Americans' Relation to the 'Common'

The fourth Joanna Jackson Goldman Memorial Lecture on American Civilization and Government will be presented at the Library by Martin E. Marty, Fairfax M. Cone Distinguished Service Professor, the Divinity School, University of Chicago. The lecture, "America After Its Trauma: Tribalism, Totalism, and the Common Good," will be given in the Library's Montpelier Room, Sixth floor, Madison Building, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 18. No tickets are required.

Professor Marty's theme — the conflict between the one and the many in American society — has exceptional relevance and poignancy today. In the aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing, and in this tumultuous election year, the question will undoubtedly affect the choices made behind the curtains of American polling booths. The relationship individuals feel to the "common" is of urgent national importance — not only for politicians but as part of the search for national self-understanding.

Professor Marty has been described as a true scholar-citizen. A teacher of the history of modern Christianity, he is a highly prolific author whose books are respected for their fresh and expansive approach to the study of religion and its role in society. His book *Righteous Empire* won the 1971 National Book Award. His other works include *The New Shape of American Religion* (1959), *Varieties of Unbelief* (1964), *A Nation of Behavers* (1976), *The Public Church* (1981), *Pilgrims in Their Own Land* (1984), *Protestantism in the United States* (1985) and the multivolume *Modern American Religion* (1986-).

Professor Marty is also co-editor of The Fundamentalism Project, a broad, multi-phase study conducted under the auspices of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has been senior editor of *The Christian Century* since 1985, *Context* Magazine since 1969, and co-editor of *Church History* since 1963.

Professor Marty is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has served as president of the American Society for Church History, the American Catholic Historical Association, and the American Academy of Religion.

The Goldman Memorial Lecture series is made possible by a gift from the estate of the late Eric F. Goldman, who taught at Princeton University. Established in 1992, the series fulfills Mr. Goldman's desire to honor the memory of his wife. Each year an individual is selected on the basis of his or her high achievement and literary skill to deliver a lecture at the Library on a significant issue facing American democracy. The series is intended to foster consideration of American culture and customs, economic and social issues, international relations, government and public policy.

Dr. Billington said the lecture series allows "a long-term assessment of some aspect of the American experience . . . by stimulating provocative and thoughtful debate on issues of importance to public policy."

CORDS *(Cont. from p. 73)*

and works electronically, entering the data into COPICS (Copyright Office Publication and Interactive Cataloging System). Copyright registration certificates will be issued through the Copyright Imaging System (CIS). The office's digital repository will ensure the digital deposits are secure and verifiable.

The CORDS project also includes the establishment of policies and operating procedures that the Library and the Copyright Office will need to store, retrieve and use copyrighted materials in secure depositories in accordance with the terms and conditions of access and use established by their owners.

In the digital repositories, individual works will receive unique digital identifiers called "handles." Handles are part of a system being tested as a possible national standard for locating individual digital objects and their associated rights and permissions information in digital repositories throughout the country.

"Once fully implemented over the next few years, CORDS will aid both the Copyright Office and copyright owners by providing an efficient new registration and recordation mechanism," said Associate Register for National Copyright Programs Mary Levering. Mrs. Levering has coordinated the development of CORDS.

CORDS also will play a large role in expanding the collections of the National Digital Library. "It will provide an effective source for the Library of Congress to acquire new publications in digital form for its growing National Digital Library," Mrs. Levering added. The digitized copyright deposits received through CORDS, once the system is fully implemented, will start to quickly expand the collections of the National Digital Library.

"The collections of the Library of Congress belong to the American people," Dr. Billington has said regarding the Digital Library. "We have a responsibility to make the enormous riches of this institution as accessible as possible to as many people as possible." With CORDS, the Library's users will be enriched through timely access to new, digitized, copyrighted materials.

—*Judith Nierman*

Judith Nierman is a writer/editor in the Copyright Office.

Angela Evans Named Deputy Director of Congressional Research Service

Angela Evans, acting associate director for research for the Congressional Research Service (CRS), was selected as deputy director of CRS effective March 3.

She is the first woman named to that position in the history of CRS.

As deputy director, she will assist the director, Daniel P. Mulhollan, in formulating the policies, goals and direction of CRS, ensuring effective working relationships with Congress, directing strategic planning and managing the work of the 747 employees in the nine divisions and three offices of CRS.

As acting associate director for research, a newly created position she had held since October 1995, Ms. Evans was charged with evaluating the research, analysis, and information programs of CRS, especially as they support the legislative activities of Congress.

CRS, an administrative unit of the Library of Congress, works exclusively for the members and committees of Congress in support of their legislative, oversight and representative functions. CRS provides research, analysis and a wide variety of information services with the goal of contributing to an informed national legislature.

Angela Evans is the first woman to become deputy director of CRS.

Since January 1994, Ms. Evans has been detailed to three different high-level positions in the Library, directing and coordinating various facets of the Library's congressional activities. These were: director of the Congressional Relations Office, where she also served as an adviser to the Librarian of Congress; associate director for research, planning and coordination for CRS, where she oversaw CRS's responses to Library-wide issues as well as new initiatives aimed at better serving Congress; and her most recent position in CRS, acting associate director for research.

Ms. Evans joined the Library in 1971 as an analyst in the Education and Public Welfare Division of CRS. She developed expertise in federal education policies, budget and appropriations processes, health policies, international competitiveness issues, children's issues and income maintenance. She worked directly with members and committees of Congress on these issues. Over the years Ms. Evans took on ever more responsible positions in the division. She was named head of the Education Section in 1987, with primary supervisory responsibility for planning and executing all work performed by CRS for Congress in education and training policy.

Ms. Evans graduated *summa cum laude* from Canisius College and received a master's degree in psychology from the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Library Schedules Freud Exhibition for 1998

The Library's exhibition "Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture" will open in the autumn of 1998, Dr. Billington has announced.

The exhibition, originally slated for autumn 1996, was postponed last December because the necessary private funds had not been raised.

In announcing the new date, Dr. Billington said, "This postponement has been erroneously characterized in the media either as a cancellation or a response to outside controversy over the show's content. It was, in fact, nothing more than a postponement due to inadequate funding. We have always had full confidence in the integrity and scholarship of the curator, the organizers and the advisers."

The guest curator of the exhibition, Michael Roth, said he was pleased with the 1998 opening date. Dr. Roth, professor of European history at Clare-mont Graduate School in Claremont, Calif., said: "This exhibition will draw attention to the extraordinary collections of the Library of Congress and underscore their importance by examining Freud's enormous cultural impact in our century. . . . The exhibit team will continue to work toward integrating the widest possible range of scholarly viewpoints into our planning process."

The Library has the world's largest Freud archives. Materials under consideration for the show include some of the approximately 45,000 manuscripts in the Freud collection, the bulk of which are unrestricted, and related items from the Library's holdings of rare books, films, maps and photographs.

The exhibition will explore Freud's influence throughout 20th century culture and how and why his legacy is contested.

Elector Augustus (opposite) transformed Saxony into a European cultural mecca in the 16th century; a boar hunt in the Altmarkt in Dresden, with the City Hall (*Rathaus*) on the right.

Treasures from Saxony:

Library Hosts Major Exhibition from Dresden Library

by Kathleen Cassedy

To commemorate the 440th anniversary of the Saxon State Library, a major exhibition of 185 rare artifacts from its collections will be presented at the Library from April 11 through July 13.

"Dresden: Treasures from the Saxon State Library" will offer a rich sampling of German and general European culture from the High Middle Ages through the 19th century.

This is the first of two articles on the exhibition.

The Saxon State Library originated in 1556 when Elector Augustus (reigned 1553-1586) began systematic collecting for his personal library in Dresden, the capital of Saxony.

Dresden began as a German settlement around the seventh century and was founded as a town in 1206, when it was part of the Holy Roman Empire. In 1356, Saxony became one of seven principalities whose rulers elected the Holy Roman Emperor. (The Holy Roman Empire existed from 962 to 1806 and initially included Germany, Prussia, northern Italy and Burgundy, France.)

Under the auspices of Saxony's ruling elector princes and nobility, Dresden was, by the end of the 16th century, one of Europe's most cosmopolitan cities. As befits a great city, the library and its collections grew dramatically. Princes and, later, library administrators and scholars carefully developed and enhanced the collections.

"During the first half of the 18th century, under the rulers Augustus I (Augustus the Strong) and his son Augustus II, Saxony reached the pinnacle of its cultural influence, manifested in the spectacular baroque architecture of the capital city. Dresden became a major European culture center, where monarchs fostered the arts and made significant additions to the city's art museum and library collections," said Dr. Billington in the exhibition's accompanying catalog.

Treasures in this exhibition were chosen for their beauty, rarity and historical significance. They include rare manuscripts from the Middle Ages, early examples of the art of printing and bookbinding, maps, copper etchings, woodcuts by Albrecht Dürer, paintings of Dresden, and autographed or annotated scores by Johann Sebastian Bach, Johannes Brahms, Robert Schumann, Heinrich Schütz, Antonio Vivaldi and Richard Wagner.

Twenty-four items are from the Reformation, including Martin Luther's translation of the Bible — the first into German. Others include portraits of the Electors, a treatise on fencing and jousting, illustrations of fancy dress processions and other aspects of Dresden's city life.

"The idea for this exhibition originated in 1992, shortly after the collapse of communism, when I had the opportunity to visit the Saxon State Library," said Dr. Billington.

"During the decades of communist rule, the Saxon State Library was our most reliable exchange partner, even when it could have been to their detriment; their staff was always respon-

sive to the needs of the Library of Congress," said Margrit B. Krewson, German/Dutch area specialist at the Library, who has been instrumental in organizing and fundraising for this exhibition.

For the past four years the two libraries have collaborated to produce "Dresden: Treasures from the Saxon State Library," which will open in Dresden at the Stadtmuseum in early August, following its showing here.

The exhibition follows two other Library-sponsored exhibitions featuring European collections: "Creating French Culture: Treasures from the Bibliothèque nationale de France" (1995) and "Rome Reborn: The Vatican Library and Renaissance Culture" (1993).

The French exhibition represented an entire nation's history over 11 centuries. The Vatican exhibition illustrated the Catholic Church's influence and expansion during the Renaissance. The Saxon State Library exhibition explores how its treasures were collected by one library in a single city.

Saxony's ruling elector princes showed great vision in transforming Dresden into one of Europe's cultural capitals, attracting the greatest artisans, architects, sculptors, poets, musicians, artists and scholars of the day through their patronage. The creative arts flourished, and some of the most talented artists and intellectuals of Europe spent time in Dresden during its Golden Era. Many used the resources of the library, which became available to the public in the early 18th century under Augustus the Strong.

The exhibition is organized into 13 categories. This article will cover the first six. These are: Rare Manuscripts; the Art of Printing; Fine Bindings of the Renaissance; the Clerical Reformation; the Bible; and the Electoral Library, which focuses on the origin of the Saxon State Library.

A second article (to be published in the next issue) will cover manuscripts and other artifacts that relate to specific cultural icons of Dresden: the Electoral Hofkapelle, the renowned court musical group of singers and instrumentalists; and the Frauenkirche — the oldest church in Dresden, which was rebuilt as a Protestant Cathedral in the early 1700s.

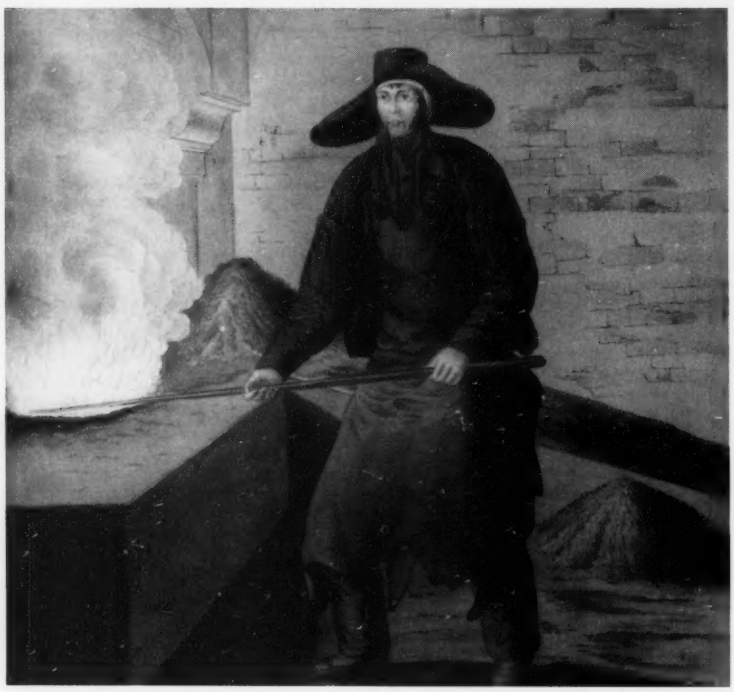
Other categories, highlighting cultural periods associated with Dresden, include the Augustan Era; Twilight of a Century (mid- to late-17th century); the Age of Goethe; and Romanticism. From Faraway Lands, the final section, shows exquisite manuscripts produced outside Europe.

When Elector Augustus began collecting in the mid-16th century, Saxony was already a wealthy state. His father, Elector Moritz, who reigned from 1521 to 1553, had great political power, and the state prospered from the riches of its mines.

Silver, minerals and semiprecious stones had been discovered in the Erzgebirge (Ore Mountains), to Dresden's east, in the 12th century, and by the 16th century the mining industry was thriving. Artisans created fine objects from the raw materials, and the new merchant class grew increasingly prosperous.

The exhibition has several items that reflect the importance of mining in Saxony. *A Handbook on Mining and Metallurgy* by 16th century Saxon scholar Georg Agricola remained the standard work until the 18th century. Colored engravings in the 1830 book *Depiction of Saxon Metal Workers* document various aspects of a miner's life, such as his rich festive dress, workplace and tools.

This prosperity gave Saxony's rulers, nobility and wealthy bourgeoisie the luxury of collecting great works of art and literature. Prince Augustus invited Italian artists to his court in Dresden, Saxony's capital since 1485,



Mining was the basis of Saxony's wealth, power and cultural development from the 12th century onward. This metalworker in traditional dress was documented around 1830 by G.E. Rost.

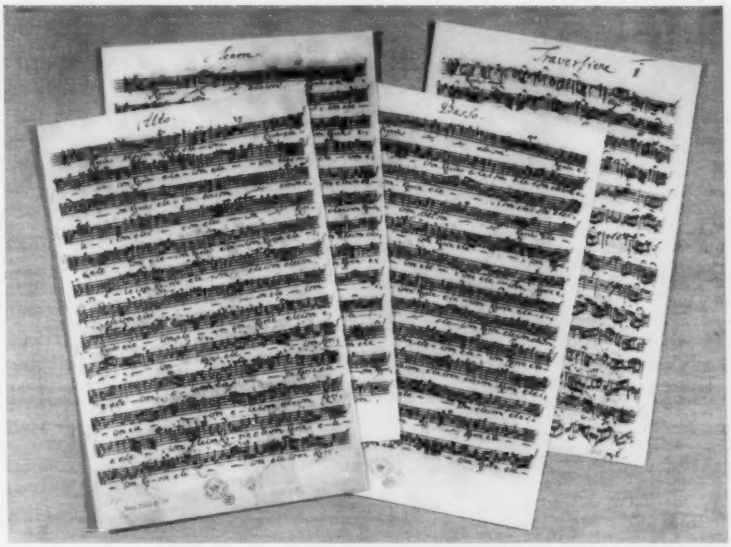
and founded an art gallery in 1560. He was personally involved in the development of his library, concentrating on literature in German and foreign languages, manuscripts, incunabula (books printed before 1501) and maps. He perused catalogs from the book fairs in neighboring Leipzig and commissioned diplomats to buy works for him when they traveled abroad.

A 1580 handwritten catalog lists 2,345 works in his collection from all fields — the classics, theology, history, medicine, surgery, law, mathematics, architecture, astronomy, tournaments and festivals, warfare, mining, numismatics, mineralogy, biology and agriculture. This catalog can be seen in the exhibition.

A 1575 manuscript that explains how to remove kidney stones is among the medical works from this era. An illustration shows how the surgeon's assistant restrains the patient during the operation. There is also a 1543 work on anatomy, written by a professor of surgery who acquired his knowledge through cadaver dissections.

From the start, the Saxon State Library's collections were primarily purchased, rather than confiscated from monasteries or by foreign conquest, as was the case in other countries. Prince Augustus's library was already impressive, since few other libraries held more than 300 books. During this time, many books were so valuable they were often chained to desks or lecterns. Once Augustus began to acquire literature systematically, he summoned to court the most acclaimed bookbinders of the day to bind a large portion of his collection. Of these, the greatest were Jakob Krause, formerly at the court of the wealthy merchant and banking Fugger family, and his assistant Caspar Meuser.

In Dresden, Krause meticulously produced more than 1,000 bindings. He used white parchment, pigskin or costly calfskin to make the bindings, which bore the coat of arms, insignia and often the portrait of Prince Augustus. His bindings were basically a German Wittenberg style with Italian, French and oriental ornamentation. Three books bound by him are in the exhibition.



Johann Sebastian Bach appended pages from his *Mass in B Minor* to his application for a court appointment.

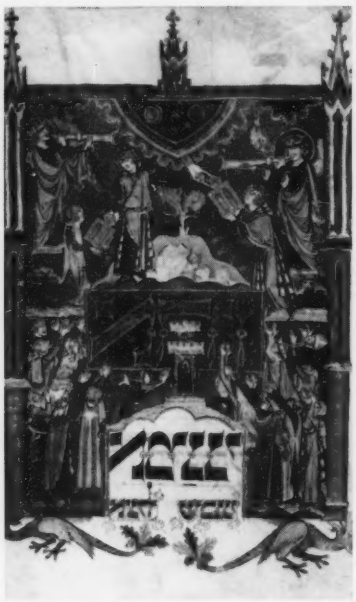
Meuser was naturally influenced by Krause, but developed his own style using elaborate leaf ornamentation. Among his works in the exhibition is a unique heart-shaped prayer book, which belonged to Princess Anna, the wife of Prince Augustus.

Prince Augustus collected few medieval manuscripts, since they were transferred to the University of Leipzig and Saxon private schools after monasteries closed following the Reformation. Several centuries later, many were given to the Saxon State Library. At the end of World War II, the Saxon State Library had 2,384 incunabula; more than half of these were then confiscated and taken to Russia.

The sampling in the exhibition includes 14th-century copies of works by Ovid and Petrarch, medieval histories of Meissen and Bohemia, a 14th century genealogy of Frankish kings, and a Troyes edition of the Dance of Death, a popular theme in the 15th and 16th centuries.

The Saxon State Library has 2,800 editions of the Bible in 72 languages. Sixty-three Bibles are incunabula, usually in Latin or French. A number of 19th-century New Testament editions were printed for missionaries in African and Asian languages. Highlights of Bibles in the exhibition include:

- A 1479 Bible produced on vellum in Venice by the renowned printer Nicolaus Jensen. The Antiqua type recreates the letter forms of Roman inscriptions in modern print, reflecting the ideals of humanism, a popular movement at the time. In this copy, the major initials are illuminated and the smaller ones are in blue or red.
- A 1514 Bible in Hebrew, Chaldaic, Greek and Latin, printed in Spain. This Bible is considered the first and finest polyglot Bible. It was commissioned by a cardinal and is based on ancient manuscripts from the Vatican Library. Only 600 copies of this six-folio work were printed between 1514 and 1516. The printing bill came to the astronomical sum of 50,000 gold guilders. (During this period, a schoolmaster earned less than 10 guilders a year.)
- An early-15th-century manuscript of the Bible translated into English by John Wycliffe, a "pre-Reformer." Wycliffe saw the disparity between biblical teachings and the practices of



In this illumination from the Jewish *Holy Day Prayer Book*, Moses receives the Ten Commandments and presents them to his people.

the Catholic Church at that time. In 1380 he translated the Bible into colloquial English with the assistance of Nicholas of Hereford.

By 1595 the Dresden Court Library had 5,668 monographs and 91 maps and copper engravings. After this date, its growth was slowed by the Thirty Years' War and the plague.

Following Johann Gutenberg's invention of movable type in 1448 and the advent of oily ink and cheaper paper made from linen, books became more affordable. A thriving book business grew in the cities of Leipzig, Frankfurt and Wittenberg. The Protestant Reformation could not have occurred so quickly or spread so widely if the printing industry had not yet been developed. Luther's articles, treatises and other works were printed and distributed in large numbers during this period.

In the mid-19th century, the Dresden Library acquired 317 original prints — many from Saxon private schools — from the Reformation period. About 24 of these are shown in the exhibition.

Martin Luther (1483-1546), an Augustinian monk, was a popular theology professor at the University of Wittenberg, founded by Grand Duke Elector Frederick the Wise of Saxony in 1502. Elector Frederick became Luther's supporter. His portrait is displayed in the exhibition in the 1586 book *Authentic Representations and Portraiture of All the Grand Dukes.*

Luther did not originally intend to start a massive Reformation, but like many other clergy and learned men, he was disturbed by the Catholic Church's controversial practice of selling indulgences in exchange for absolution of past, present and future sins.

In 1517, when Luther (reportedly) posted his *95 Theses for the Disputation on the Power of Indulgences* on the door of Frederick's castle church (in those days church doors often served as bulletin boards), he was seeking to provoke theological debate. Instead he started a revolution. Luther chose All Saint's Day to distribute his *95 Theses,* knowing they would reach an audience of churchgoers. The theses were first printed in Latin and German editions in Leipzig, Nuremberg and Basel. Word of mouth also helped spread his *95 Theses,* which led to spontaneous demonstrations after only one week.

Luther's colloquial writing style was popular with the reading public. At the time, the official language of the government, the church and scholars was Latin, which very few lay people could read. When Luther wrote in High German, it became the standard German literary language.

In the next two years, 38 of Luther's manuscripts were printed in 113 editions in Leipzig alone.

The argument over indulgences developed into a dispute over the pope's granting of salvation. Luther attracted many learned men and women as followers, including the painter Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528), who supported Luther in letters and pamphlets. Highlights from the Reformation section of the exhibition include:

• *The Passion of Our Lord Jesus.* This sketchbook by Dürer was printed in Nuremberg in 1511 and contains the master's original drawings and his autographed manuscript of Book 1 of *Guidelines for Proportions.* The work includes three woodcut series of Biblical themes, which were created over a period of time, then gathered in one volume and printed with the Latin verses of Benedict Chelidonius.

According to *The Printing Revolution in Early Modern Europe* by Elizabeth Eisenstein, "Between 1517 and 1520, Luther's 30 publications probably sold well over 300,000 copies. . . . For the first time in human history a great reading public judged the validity of revolutionary ideas through a mass medium which used the vernacular language [and] the arts of the journalist and cartoonist."

By 1520 Wittenberg had become the center of the Reformation and the publishing of reformist writing. Pope Leo X tried to silence Luther for heresy, but Elector Frederick the Wise managed to have Luther tried at the Imperial Diet in Augsburg, rather than in Rome. Luther was asked to recant but refused. The Edict of Worms followed, imposing an imperial ban on Luther and his followers; their writings were ordered burned.

This did not stop the prolific Luther. In 1520 he published three principal Reformation theses in Wittenberg, and all are in the exhibition:

• *Address to the Christian Nobility of the German Nation,* in which Luther urges the Christian nobility to reform and places himself at the head of a reform movement driven by laymen.

• *The Babylonian Captivity of the Church.* In this work Luther argues against the Catholic Church's sacramental teaching. He considered only baptism and communion sacraments. The title page displayed features a portrait of Luther.

• *On the Freedom of a Christian,* in which Luther argues against papal authority and states that believers can have a direct relationship with God.

To protect Luther, Frederick the Wise convinced the monk to disguise him-

self as "Junker Georg" and seek refuge at Wartburg Castle. While in hiding, Luther translated the New Testament into German, based on a Latin translation by Desiderius Erasmus, the great scholar and theologian. Both Erasmus's and Luther's New Testaments are in this exhibition.

• The New Testament, translated from the original Greek by Erasmus. This expanded and revised edition in 1519 was printed by Johann Froben with woodcut borders by Urs Graf.

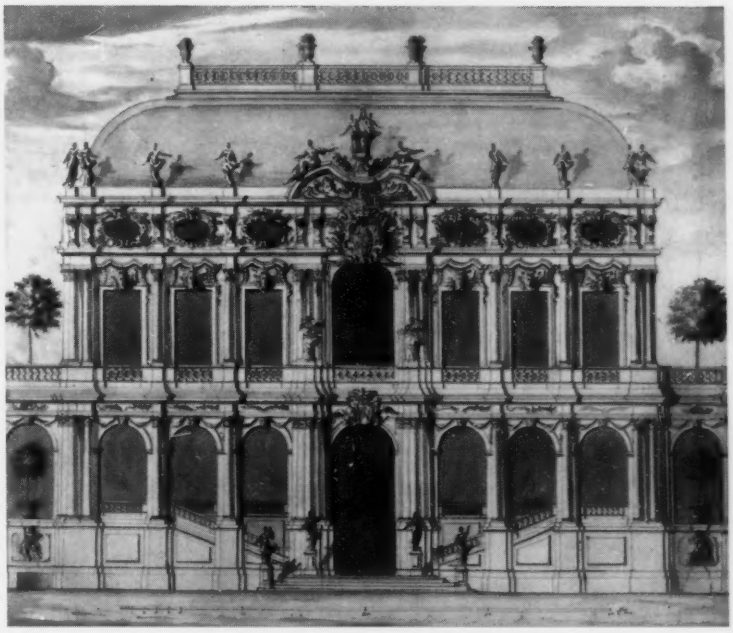
• Luther's New Testament in German. Luther completed his translation in 11 weeks. By September 1522, 3,000 copies had been printed. They sold so quickly that three months later the publisher issued a second edition, which was known as the December Testament. The Book of Revelation is illustrated with 21 woodcuts from the Wittenberg workshop of Lucas Cranach, who modeled them after Dürer's woodcut Apocalypse figures.

Luther next worked to translate the Old Testament into German. Already, Luther's New Testament had reached a record printing: 87 High German editions, 19 Low German editions, one Danish, one Swedish and three Dutch translations.

• Luther's German translation of the entire Bible, published in 1534, is considered his greatest linguistic accomplishment. The Bible is richly illustrated with decorative initials and 117 woodcuts by Cranach, who had also illustrated Luther's New Testament. An unbound copy of the Bible sold later that year at the Leipzig book fair for two guilders, eight groschen.

Followers began to apply Luther's teachings to church life. Saxon priests began to teach according to the Gospels. Both monks and nuns left monasteries, and priests took marriage vows, as did Luther, who married in June 1525. Many monks became pastors and proclaimed the Reformation. Luther wrote books to instruct pastors in baptism, marriage and the performance of catechism and mass. Many of these works are in the exhibition.

Influenced by the ideas of the Reformation, the Austrian Swabian peasants led a revolt. The *Program of the Twelve Articles by the Swabian Peasants During the Peasants War of 1524-1526* was drafted in Swabia in March 1525. This rare surviving manifesto, which is in the exhibition, shows how these peasants used the Gospels to argue their right to free elections of the clergy and free use of the forests. The document went through 25 printings within a few weeks. Most were confiscated and destroyed when the rebellion was put down.



The Dresden Zwinger, a masterpiece of baroque architecture, was conceived by Elector Augustus and built by Matthäus Daniel Pöppelmann, a leading architect of the day.

On July 6, 1539, the first evangelical worship service was held in Dresden. In 1555, the Religious Peace of Augsburg granted freedom of worship to Protestants.

The favorite art form of Protestantism is music. Luther himself composed 41 hymns. His "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" is still sung in churches today.

Among exhibition highlights of musical manuscripts from the Reformation period are:

• A rare pre-Reformation choir book from the early 16th century, which was acquired from the St. Annen Kirche in Annaberg in 1968 and restored by the Saxon State Library.

• A hymnal prepared by Johann Spangenberg, at Luther's request, is the earliest collection of liturgical music for Protestant services.

The treasures of the Saxon State Library have endured more than four centuries of war and political and religious turmoil, including the fire bombings of Dresden during World War II. Now, because of the reunification of Germany, Westerners have their first chance in 40 years to view these artifacts from one of the world's outstanding cultural institutions.

"Dresden: Treasures from the Saxon State Library" will be on view April 11 through July 13, Monday through Friday 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., in the Southwest Pavilion of the Jefferson Building.

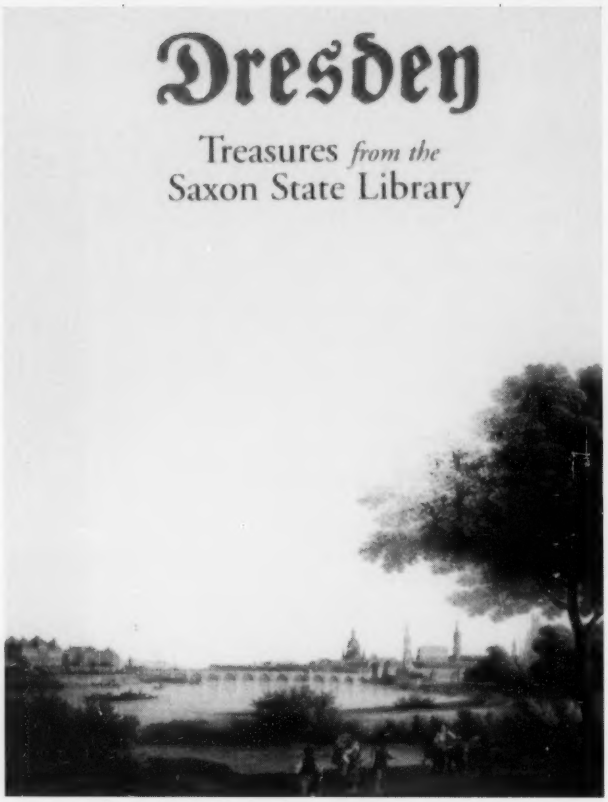
– Kathleen Cassedy is a free-lance writer/editor working in the Public Affairs Office.

New Library of Congress Catalog

Dresden: Treasures from the Saxon State Library

The Library has just published the catalog *Dresden: Treasures from the Saxon State Library,* edited by Margrit B. Krewson, the Library's German/Dutch area specialist.

The catalog accompanies the exhibition of the same name, which opens in the Library's Jefferson Building on April 11. The exhibition is the last in a series of displays of treasures from the world's major libraries.



This catalog is an introduction to the rich literary, musical and religious history of Dresden collections and libraries, now incorporated into the holdings of the Saxon State Library (Sächsische Landesbibliothek).

The first of five essays written by the professional staff of the Saxon State Library begins with a history of the library from its beginnings in 1556, as a court library, to its current role as the state library of Saxony and one of the preeminent libraries in Germany. This overview traces the growth of the collections and the library's relocation to various prominent buildings in the city. It relates the library's fortunes to the changing economic and political environment in Saxony.

The second essay provides a review of the history of Saxony, with particular emphasis on the ruling family of Wettin and the political and cultural ambitions of its ruling members. As the power and prestige of the family grew, Saxony became a major center of political influence and cultural achievement. Consequently, the state played a critical role in central Europe in the power struggles among Prussia, Austria and the Catholic and Protestant churches.

The third essay explains the origin and role of the Protestant Reformation in Saxony. It was in Saxony that Martin Luther expressed his opposition to the Catholic Church and eventually translated the Bible into German. His actions began the Protestant Reformation — Saxony's most important contribution to world history.

Another essay discusses the role of Dresden in developing literature during the Romantic period at the beginning of the 19th century. The "Romantic School" was born in Dresden in 1798, when the Schlegel brothers, Novalis and Friedrich Schilling gathered in the city they considered the "Florence of the North."

The final essay describes the rich musical heritage of Saxony, much of which is preserved in the Saxon State Library. This musical heritage, which developed in both Leipzig and Dresden, focused not only on sacred music, but also on works for the Court Orchestra and Opera.

Also included in the catalog are 40 illustrations of some of the more than 180 items displayed in the exhibition. Particularly noteworthy are the 13th-century Hebrew manuscript *Holy Day Prayer Book for the Whole Year,* a testimony to German Jewry of the Middle Ages; Maria Sibylla Merian's *Metamorphosis of the Insects of Surinam,* published in 1705 after the author's two-year stay in the jungles of Surinam; Johann Sebastian Bach's *Mass in B Minor: Kyrie and Gloria,* composed in 1717; and the first Bible in German, translated from the Latin by Martin Luther in 1534 and considered one of his greatest accomplishments.

In the appendix is a short list of all 185 items, in the order in which they appear in the exhibition. A bibliography of references in English and German will guide those who wish to explore further the themes of the catalog and the exhibition.

The catalog will be available for purchase in the Library of Congress Sales Shop for $19.95.

'From Peep Show to Palace':

New Book Recounts Turbulent Birth of Cinema

One hundred years ago, the crude realism of the first public cinema showings caused shock waves among audiences — sometimes even panic.

"On one occasion," read a contemporary news account, "an old lady in the audience, quite unable to suppress a scream, started up in her seat and tried to scramble out," knocking over others on her way. On the screen a fire engine raced toward the audience.

The Library's new book *From Peep Show to Palace: The Birth of American Film* recounts the early years of film, beginning with the primitive motion of the "magic lantern" in the 17th century and continuing through the upsurge of research and development that occurred from 1893 to 1913, when the modern motion picture — and the multibillion-dollar industry based upon it — was born.

British film historian and critic David Robinson "tells with verve the fascinating story of the transition from pre-cinematic forms . . . to the major world industry that motion pictures became," writes Dr. Billington in his preface to the book.

Ever since 1893, when W.K.L. Dickson, assistant to Thomas Edison, copyrighted the first commercially distributed movie, Dr. Billington notes, "the Library has led the film archive movement in the United States."

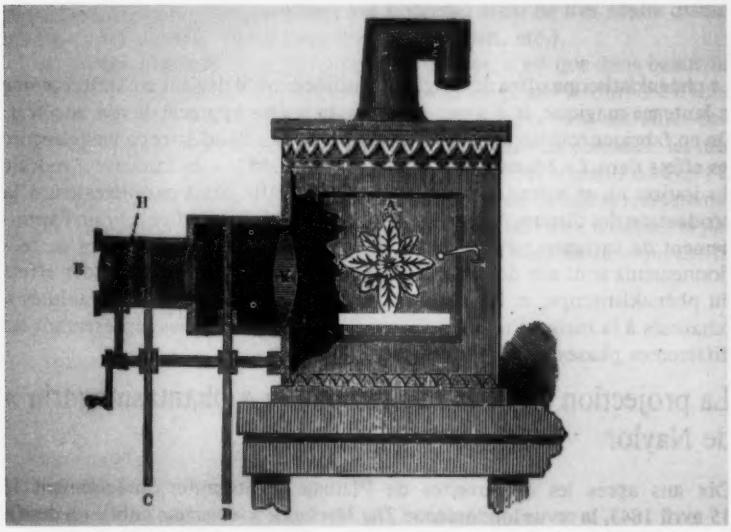
The book also features a foreword by film director Martin Scorsese. The men who invented movies — especially Thomas Edison, Louis and Auguste Lumiere and Georges Melies — were "scientists with the spirit of showmen," Mr. Scorsese says. "They were visionaries who attempted to convert science into a magical form of entertainment. . . . For the past 100 years, we have all been the children of their cinema."

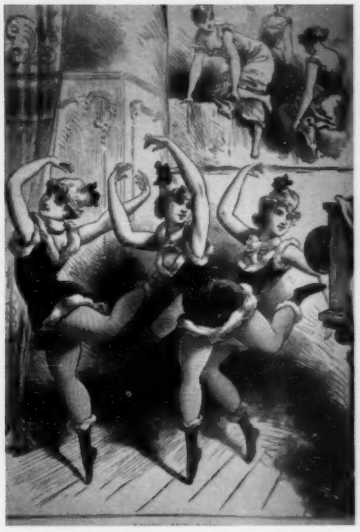
Only 211 pages long, *From Peep Show to Palace* traces a clear path through a complex story. The motion picture as we know it today was never "invented," nor did it evolve in a straightforward progression, writes Mr. Robinson. "Rather it was like the assembling of a puzzle . . . over a very long period of time."

The assembling dates back to 1420, when Giovannie da Fontana, a young Venetian academic, painted demonic shapes on a lampshade to frighten people with the grotesque shadows they threw on the wall.

Following Fontana's simple experiments, nearly two centuries passed before image projection "acquired the magic of precise representation," Mr. Robinson recounts. The true "magic lantern" — combining a light source, a light condenser, an image painted on glass and a lens — is credited to the Jesuit scholar Athanasius Kircher, who wrote about such a device in his 1671 tome *Arts Magna Lucis et Umbrae* (*The Great Art of Light and Shadow*). But Dutch physicist Christian Huygens may have been using a practical magic lantern as early as 1659.

Most of the book focuses on the





The Phenakistiscope, a mid-18th-century "peep show" device for viewing moving images; London dancing girls displaying their technique before a Kinetoscope in Thomas Edison's laboratory in 1894.

"Edison Kinetoscopic Record of a Sneeze," the oldest surviving motion picture, was recorded by W.K.L. Dickson in January 1894.

turbulent two decades from 1893 to 1913, a period of rapid evolution, when "the future structures of the industry, particularly in the United States, were definitively shaped," Mr. Robinson writes.

In 1893 W.K.L. Dickson, Thomas Edison's talented assistant, sought copyright protection for several "Kinetoscopic records" — motion pictures made for commercial use with the Kinetoscope, the first animation device, which was patented by Edison. According to Mr. Robinson, Dickson's copyright marked the true beginning of the film industry in America and perhaps worldwide, predating by more than two years the projection of a film before a paying audience in Paris on Dec. 24, 1895 — the conventionally accepted date for the birth of public cinema.

Outwardly, Kinetoscopes resembled "peep shows," devices into which a spectator could peer at images. Unlike peep shows, however, the Kinetoscope's pictures moved. Its images were recorded on celluloid film in precisely the same format used today. A public craze ensued.

Just one element in the motion picture puzzle was now lacking: projection. Edison, however, spoke out against what he considered the misguided notion of projecting images onto large screens for mass viewing. Meanwhile, his attempts to link the Kinetoscope images to recorded sound failed. By the end of 1894 it was clear the Kinetoscope was out of step with the public's enthusiasms. It faded into obscurity, along with the peep show.

In 1895 Dickson resigned from Edison's company in a bitter dispute over authorship and the direction of the technology. Dickson recruited new partners and, late that year, established the American Mutoscope Co. (later the American Mutoscope Biograph Co.). The company quickly patented the Mutoscope, a device that projected moving pictures. Soon afterward the group perfected a through-the-film projector called the Biograph.

An international race to American screens began, with manufacturers in England, France and America vying heatedly for first place.

Though the Biograph had been first to market, the projection victory went to a device called the Edison Vitascope. The Vitascope was actually invented by C. Francis Jenkins and Thomas Armat, two young students at the Bliss School of Electricity. But its creators ingenuously included "Edison" in its title to win maximum credibility and publicity for the device.

Edison bought the Vitascope patent and, in February 1895, attended a demonstration of "his" device. "To judge from the news reports," recounts Mr. Robinson, "he played the role of its inventor with great aplomb."

The first theatrical exhibition of the Vitascope was on April 23, 1896, at Koster and Bial's Music Hall in Herald Square in Manhattan.

"It is hard today to comprehend the full impact on audiences of 1896 of their first exposure to motion pictures," Mr. Robinson writes. "Their amazement . . . shows what a great jump it was from the mechanically produced moving images in the magic lantern."

The commercial potential of the new technology was obvious. Rival manufacturers sprouted up seemingly overnight. But starting in 1897 — when the last of three Edison motion picture patents was issued — the Edison Manufacturing Co. went on the attack. Using hostile patenting and liti-

Anna Held, a popular Ziegfeld star, raises a toast in a film by the American Mutoscope Company in 1900.

gation strategies, the company tried to eliminate its competitors and wrest monopoly of the burgeoning American film industry.

For almost a decade, "the specter of Edison infringement suits remained a critical deterrent to other entrepreneurs," Mr. Robinson reports. Even the Edison company's own associates were subjected to infringement suits for selling films other than Edison's. Competitors' resources were drained by defense costs.

In 1907 the largest manufacturers cried "uncle" and conceded Edison's patent rights. Six of them pooled their patent rights with Edison's in a holding company they called the Motion Picture Patents Co. (MPCC).

The Trust, as the MPCC came to be known, became the leading force in film production for the next five years. It began issuing licenses to its competitors in exchange for royalties. In 1909, when the Eastman Co. agreed to sell its raw film stock only to MPCC licensees, the Trust seemed poised to win monopoly of the entire industry.

Its success was short-lived, however. By refusing to admit smaller companies as members, the Trust provoked the rejected producers into organizing in opposition. By 1908 the so-called "independents" had found other sources of raw film and projection devices, evading the Trust's patents. The Trust's power continued to ebb until World War I, when the loss of European markets marked its demise.

During its brief life, the Trust worked hard to standardize the industry. It regulated film release quotas, schedules, rental prices and other factors. However, strict enforcement of its regulations may have done as much to stunt the industry as to develop it, Mr. Robinson contends. Horror stories began to circulate about the strong-arm tactics the Trust supposedly used to enforce its stipulations and pester opposing companies.

The Trust did achieve long-lasting influence on film content. When a nationwide crusade formed around "moral purification" of the movies, the Trust inserted itself in front of the parade, waving the flag for the establishment of censorship boards. In fact, the content of all but a tiny percentage of pre-1920 films was very bland, even by standards of the day. But nickelodeons and movie houses — dark and thronged with children and young girls — were popularly regarded as dens of prurience. Trust members cannily saw that portraying themselves asthe redeemers of a fallen industry would "appeal to every sector of the industry and of society at large," Mr. Robinson observes.

Increasingly, film was treated as a narrative or educational medium. Content reached new levels of variety, sophistication and sumptuous production. More and more well-known theater stars deigned to appear in "pictures." Multi-reel films — imported from Europe around 1912 despite an initially resistant American industry — inspired longer, more interesting plots and presentations.

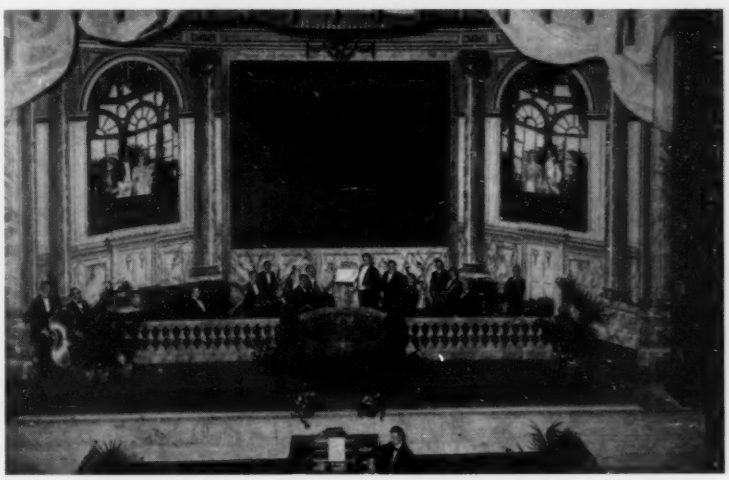
Theater owners joined the campaign for quality. They made movie houses clean and plush and hired ushers to escort patrons in and out. Organ, and sometimes even orchestral, accompaniment to films became commonplace.

Studios were enlarged and technically improved. Migration to the West Coast began: By 1913 every major company, except Edison, had established some sort of base in Southern California, where the sun usually shone and the climate was mild. The California studios of the Universal Co. and the New York Motion Picture Co. "were like small cities, covering acres of inexpensive real estate."

By 1913 film work was becoming increasingly specialized. In contrast to the early days — when films "were made virtually single-handed by cameramen-directors" — writing, direction, acting, photography, editing and design were all separate crafts.

Directors acquired dominance as artistic heads and overseers. In 1908 the great director D.W. Griffith entered the scene with "The Adventures of Dollie." Over the next five years he directed or supervised more than 500 films for Biograph.

"Repetitive and stereotyped as they were, [his films] still surpassed in technique and content anything that had gone before," Mr. Robinson says. Griffith introduced hundreds of camera, lighting, editing and other techniques to intensify dramatic effect. He used closeups to highlight his actors' expressions and taught them to forgo exaggerated pantomime in favor of



New York's Regent Theater, complete with orchestra, singers and electric fountain, set a new standard for movie-palace opulence.

"interiorized" performances. By the time Griffith left Biograph in 1913, he was the undisputed master of the medium.

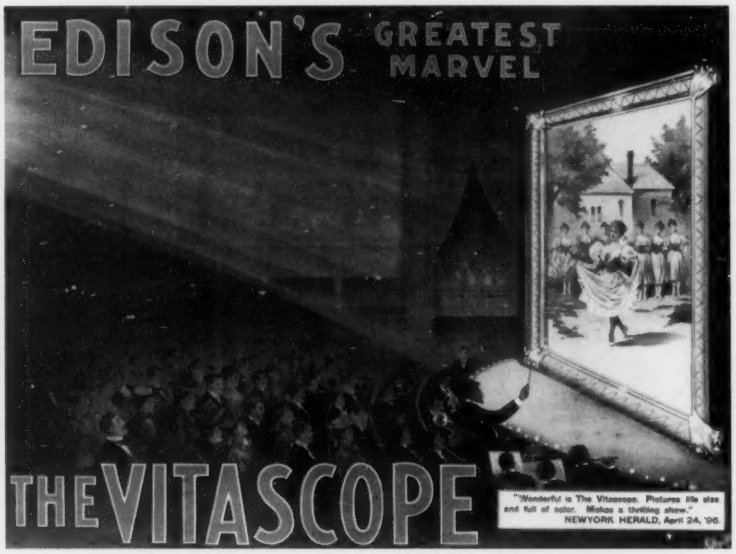
The "star system" took hold as the chief way to market films. Producers began to stage sensational stunts to promote their stars. Carl Laemmle of the Independent Moving Picture Co., for example, publicized his "capture" of star Florence Lawrence from another studio by vigorously denying rumors that Lawrence had been killed by a streetcar — rumors planted by Laemmle himself.

As cinema grew in sophistication and prestige, "the democratic base of the audience widened . . . to bring in the intellectuals, the respectable bourgeoisie, the educators and the uplifters," Mr. Robinson notes. Movie plots began to promote the virtues of church, marriage and family while punishing vice and wickedness. Story lines showing that money does not bring happiness "assuaged the sensibilities of poorer patrons. Optimism, redemption, reconciliation and happy endings abounded."

Just 20 years after the perfecting of the Kinetoscope, motion pictures had evolved from a homegrown business into an international industry. The peep show had ascended to the "palace." Movies had become "America's national art and Americans' undisputed favorite pastime. The great new picture palaces symbolized the age of prosperity and splendor upon which the cinema was ready to embark."

Mr. Robinson conducted extensive original research for the book, utilizing the Library's collections as well as those at the Edison historic site in West Orange, N.J. The book contains more than 150 photographs and drawings of cinematic devices, film footage, movie posters and the personalities behind and in front of the cameras.

The volume was partially funded by the James Madison Council, the Library's private-sector advisory group, "in recognition of the Library's continuing role as a leading world institution in both film preservation and cinema research," Dr. Billington notes in his preface.


EDISON'S GREATEST MARVEL
THE VITASCOPE
"Wonderful is The Vitascope. Pictures life size and full of color. Makes a thrilling show."
NEW YORK HERALD, April 24, '96.

Promotional poster for Edison's Vitascope (top); one of the glass lantern slides many movie houses projected between reels and showings.

From Peep Show to Palace: The Birth of American Film can be obtained for $29.95 from Columbia University Press, (212) 666-1000, or from the Library of Congress Sales Shop, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540-4985, (202) 707-0201.

—*Kristin Knauth*

Kristin Knauth is a free-lance writer/editor in the Public Affairs Office.

CORRECTIONS

In the Feb. 5, 1996, issue of the *Information Bulletin*, the cover caption incorrectly identified Maria Romanova as the czar's second daughter; she was the third. Also, on p. 27, the caption for the photo of Ipatiev House stated the house was destroyed in the 1980s; it was destroyed in 1977.

News from the Center for the Book:

'Alphabet Project' Announced

The importance of letters, language and design in promoting reading and literacy is at the heart of "The Alphabet Project," a new cooperative effort of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA).

The partnership will celebrate the alphabet and the aesthetics of book design, and will stimulate appreciation of effective written communication. It also will foster creative thinking about using design and new media in communicating ideas and information. A primary focus will be on nurturing joint projects among the 30 state affiliates of the Center for the Book and the 37 AIGA chapters of graphic designers across the country.

According to John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book, and AIGA Executive Director Richard Grefe, initially the partnership will consist of four elements: exploring, explaining and demonstrating the importance of the alphabets of the world as keys to literacy and as extraordinary communication devices; developing alphabet-related exhibitions, publications, competitions and other projects; establishing joint programs recognizing the 50 best-designed books of each year through traveling exhibits and other projects, extending the tradition of the "50 Best Books Show" started by AIGA in 1917; and celebrating poetry in public places, in cooperation with other organizations, including the Poetry Society of America.

On Jan. 25-26 national and state representatives from the Center for the Book and AIGA and invited guests gathered for an idea exchange and planning session initiated and hosted by the Florida Center for the Book, located at the Broward County Library in Fort Lauderdale.

In addition to John Cole and Ric Grefe, participants included: Jean Trebbi, director of the Florida Center for the Book; Tom Weinkle, AIGA/Miami; Richard Venezky, College of Education, University of Delaware; Vicki Lockhart, coordinator of the California Center for the Book; Melanie Doherty, AIGA/San Francisco; Mary Tracey, coordinator, Minnesota Center for the Book; and Tom Trusky, director, Idaho Center for the Book.

All agreed that the first state projects will be developed in California, Florida and Minnesota. AIGA's exhibition of the 50 best-designed books of 1994 was displayed with an exhibit checklist prepared by the Florida Center for the Book.

The Center for the Book/AIGA Alphabet Project will continue at least through the year 2000. Sponsorship and funding for many of the individual projects will be sought from corporations and foundations that have a particular commitment to the written word and its future.

AIGA is a national nonprofit organization that was founded in 1914 to promote excellence in graphic design through competitions, exhibitions, publications, professional seminars, educational activities and a variety of public interest projects.

The Center for the Book was established in 1977 to stimulate public interest in books, reading and libraries and to encourage the study of books as artifacts, art forms and means of communication. Its projects are supported by contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations and funds transferred from other government agencies.

❑ **Eric Burns to Speak at the Library.** Former NBC television news correspondent Eric Burns, author of *The Joy of Books: Confessions of a Lifelong Reader* (Prometheus Books, 1995) is the next speaker in the Center for the

John Cole discusses the Alphabet Project with Richard Grefe, executive director of American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA), during a planning session at the Florida Center for the Book.

Book's "Books & Beyond" lunchtime author series. He will speak on "The Serious Reader in the Age of Technology" at noon on Tuesday, March 26, in the West Dining Room, Madison Building. It is open to the public.

At NBC News, Mr. Burns appeared regularly on the "Today" show and "NBC Nightly News." He is the author of *Broadcast Blues: Dispatches from the Twenty-Year War between a Television Reporter and His Medium* (HarperCollins, 1993). He left TV journalism "when he found himself spending too much time with *The Washington Post* and not nearly enough with Thomas Hardy and Joseph Wambaugh." Mr. Burns concludes *The Joy of Books* with a list of 572 books "that have given me joy over the years."

❑ **Alaska Writers to Gather in April.** The second annual Writers' Rendezvous, sponsored by the Alaska Center for the Book, will be held at the University of Alaska in Anchorage on April 12-13. A statewide celebration of books, authors and reading, this year's event is being planned in conjunction with Alaska Journalism Week, a project of the Alaska Press Club.

The Consortium of Northern Publishers also will participate in the program of workshops, readings, storytelling and opportunities for families to enjoy books, writing and the printed word. Under the leadership of its president, Sara Juday of Alaska Northwest Books, the Alaska Center for the Book has established a newsletter that serves as a clearinghouse for literary and cultural events throughout Alaska. An electronic version is available on the Alaska Center's World Wide Web homepage: http://www.aonline.com/akcenter.

Through its active board of directors and the efforts of many volunteers, the center is focusing on five projects: creating a database of Alaskan authors, illustrators and book clubs; promoting Alaskan books and authors; sponsoring the Contribution to Literacy in Alaska awards; sponsoring the Writers' Rendezvous; and improving book donation and distribution in targeted Alaskan communities.

The mission of the Alaska center, which calls itself "a nonprofit organization celebrating the richness and diversity of language," is to "stimulate public interest in literacy, through the spoken and written word, as central to our understanding of ourselves and the world around us." It acts as a catalyst in bringing together the Alaska literary and book communities, which include readers, writers, booksellers, printers and publishers, educators and scholars, parents, broadcasters and media and librarians. The categories in the center's membership program range from "Book Buddy" ($5 a year), through "Page Turner" ($30 a year, which includes a subscription to the newsletter), to "Bibliomaniac" (a donation of $1,000).

For further information about the Center's programs, contact Sara Juday, President, Alaska Center for the Book, 3600 Denali St., Anchorage, AK 99503-6093, telephone (907) 278-8838, fax

Eric Burns, a former NBC News correspondent, will speak at the Library March 26 about his book *The Joy of Books.*

Library of Congress Membership Available: *Includes Subscription to* Civilization *Magazine*

Associate membership in the Library of Congress, which includes a year's subscription to *Civilization: The Magazine of the Library of Congress*, is available for annual dues of $20 (see LC *Information Bulletin*, May 2, 1994).

To receive *Civilization*, call (800) 829-0427 to pay by credit card, or send check or money order, payable to *LOC Associates*, to:

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and human resources improvement. The second phase (1997-2000) adds the task of developing the core of the "electronic Library" needed to serve Congress and the nation in the 21st century.

With the support of Congress, the Library has now launched a National Digital Library Program as a pathbreaking, private-public partnership for learning to be realized during this second phase of our strategic plan. The National Digital Library is providing both valuable educational and inspirational material for local use throughout the country and a manageable model for creating within the Library of Congress the electronic service of the future, required by the on-rush of digital information. In addition to the National Digital Library, the Library has made important innovations during the past year in electronic delivery of services from the Congressional Research Service (CRS), the Law Library and the Copyright Office, creating economies and synergies for the taxpayer as well as better service to Congress and our other clients.

We are already processing about 1 million electronic transactions a day. The recent restatement of our mission and strategic priorities has shaped the fiscal 1997 budget, which is based upon these priorities. The Library is also using this restatement to identify functions and activities that may have been desirable in the past but do not support core priorities or do not support them well enough to justify their costs.

The General Accounting Office (GAO) is now conducting both financial and management reviews of the Library. I look forward to receiving the results of these reviews, and expect that the reports will both document improvements implemented and suggest where improvements are still needed.

Since the 1991 report of the GAO financial audit that I had requested shortly after becoming Librarian (the first financial statement audit in the Library's history), the Library's financial system has improved dramatically. We have implemented a modern central financial system, outsourced payroll processing to the National Finance Center and improved financial policies and procedures. Our plan had called for another financial audit next year, but this audit was advanced a year and is currently under way.

Following widely publicized allegations of security problems in the general book collections in the Thomas Jefferson Building late last year, I directed the Library's Inspector General to investigate the allegations, and I addressed these problems in an oversight hearing by the Joint Committee on the Library on Nov. 29, 1995. As I explained at that hearing, the Library has made significant progress in improving the security of its collections ever since I ordered the bookstacks closed to the public on March 30, 1992. Since that time, moreover, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of books that can be found on the shelves to deliver to readers in the reading rooms.

The report of our outside consultants, as well as our own current evaluation of security measures, will document that, while much has been done, further measures are necessary. The fiscal 1997 budget requests $3.5 million for continued expansion of our security initiatives, including new X-ray equipment at building entrances, improved staff and collections security at loading dock entry points, increased security personnel presence throughout the Library's buildings and expanded theft detection and reader registration programs. We will continue to work diligently to serve the research needs of Congress and the public while emphasizing our historic duty to preserve and protect the items entrusted to our care. Our continued progress in reducing the arrearage of unprocessed materials is steadily improving the control of the collections.

"Most astonishing has been the growth in the Library's electronic transactions, from only a few in fiscal 1980 to 21 million a month in fiscal 1995. These numbers will continue to increase."

Human resources management poses special challenges, not unlike those in other federal agencies. The Library's hiring process is unacceptably slow; and holding individuals accountable for poor performance often results in a lengthy grievance and appeal process.

While the Library has made improvements in the minority hiring profile for administrative and professional positions, there is much work yet to be done both to accelerate the hiring process and to modernize our regulations and collective bargaining arrangements so that the Library's staff are fairly treated, efficiently deployed and held accountable for performance.

For top management, I have strengthened decision-making and accountability during the past year by replacing a large Management Team with a new, six-person Executive Committee. I have consolidated all core library programs from three service units into a single unit under a single manager and placed all major support functions also under one manager. I have appointed a retired Army lieutenant general with extensive management experience as my acting deputy and chief operating officer of the Library.

Though there are plenty of improvements still to make, the Library has streamlined management, improved accountability and is currently doing more work with fewer people.

Since fiscal 1980, the Library has increased: (1) the number of congressional requests annually answered by the Congressional Research Service from some 340,000 to almost 600,000; (2) the number of print materials cataloged annually for the nation's libraries from 206,000 to 276,000; (3) the annual number of copyright registrations from some 465,000 to nearly 610,000 and the number of copyright inquiries answered from 170,000 to over 500,000; and (4) the number of free reading materials delivered across the country each year to the blind and physically handicapped from 16.9 million to nearly 23 million.

Most astonishing of all has been the growth in the Library's total electronic transactions, from only a few in fiscal 1980 to 8 million a month in fiscal 1992, to 21 million a month in fiscal 1995.

This rapid growth results from putting large portions of our card catalog and copyright records on-line, along with congressional information (our THOMAS system), and the contents of all our major exhibits since 1991. These numbers will continue to increase as we begin to put on-line our American history collections for our new National Digital Library.

I am proud of the Library staff's efforts as

we continue to seek new ways to do more with less, and I am happy to present the Library's fiscal 1997 budget in the context of our strategic priorities.

1. Support to the United States Congress

The first priority of the Library of Congress is, and will remain, to serve the information and research needs of Congress.

The Congressional Research Service, the Law Library, the Library Services' Loan Division, and other parts of the Library of Congress provide a cost-effective shared resource that serves all committees and members in a nonpartisan manner.

Like the legislative branch as a whole, the Library is leaner today and changing its approaches in order to maintain services on which Congress depends. CRS's new Legislative Alert System illustrates our ability to anticipate and react more quickly to congressional needs. At the start of each week that Congress is in session, the Alert System identifies CRS products directly related to legislation pending for immediate floor consideration. It is accessible through the new CRS World Wide Web homepage (available to congressional offices only) along with other new products.

The Law Library is rapidly expanding its multinational electronic database called the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN) to ensure that Congress has rapid and reliable information on foreign, international and comparative law. There are now 10 member nations participating in this pioneering network (including Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Hungary, Poland and Ukraine) with 10 more scheduled to join shortly. GLIN is expected to grow at a rate of five to 10 countries each year.

We will continue to look to technology for greater economies in providing our services. If we do not receive funding for mandatory pay and price-level increases, however, we will be required to reduce services during fiscal 1997.

In order to handle the level budget approved for fiscal 1996, CRS adjusted its services, including closing the reference center located in the Ford House Office Building, one of three such centers that have served the House.

The Library regrets any reduction in services to Congress, but, since our operations are predominantly labor-intensive, unfunded mandates for pay raises necessarily confront the Library with difficult choices involving the reduction of services.

2. Preserve, Secure and Sustain a Universal Collection

The second priority of the Library of Congress is to preserve, secure and sustain for the present and future use of Congress and the nation a universal collection of human knowledge including a comprehensive record of American history and creativity. The Library does not collect everything or keep everything it receives, but it is built on the foundation of Thomas Jefferson's own wide-ranging personal collection of books; and it embodies Jefferson's belief that there is "no subject to which a member of Congress may not have occasion to refer."

"Our principal current concern is to protect the collections."

A universal collection is even more essential today than it was a few years ago if Congress is to meet its legislative and representational responsibilities. There are many more countries, institutions and individuals creating important knowledge, and the Congress and government have more complex, extensive and international concerns and needs than ever before. To keep America competitive and to foster creativity in the information age, Americans will increasingly have to rely on better use of knowledge. This in turn requires access to the continuously expanding range of languages and formats through which important knowledge is generated, recorde, and communicated.

The Library has not only the knowledge base but the *knowledge navigators* whom Congress needs to find that "needle in the haystack" which could be the key fact needed in refining a bill or sharpening a legislative debate. Many members can say, as a senator said on the floor last session, "I asked the Library of Congress yesterday and they gave me the answer today." The present and potential future needs of Congress and of the government more broadly require two unique resources that only the Library of Congress can provide: (1) a comprehensive record of American history and creativity firmly based on the copyright deposit record and (2) a universal collection of human knowledge based on a cost-effective international network of exchanges. The Library's collections provide an indispensable reservoir of information upon which important legislative decisions can be made. If a democratic society is to be dynamic, access to information is not a luxury, it is a necessity.

The fiscal 1997 budget request supports this priority by funding several major items. A price-level increase of $718,000 would sustain our purchasing power for books, machine-readable works and other materials; many of these materials are foreign publications that are purchased from countries with high rates of inflation. The amount of material we can afford to purchase from appropriated funds has declined seriously from 930,747 pieces in fiscal 1992 to 714,127 pieces in fiscal 1995. This decline has to be stopped.

The fiscal 1997 budget request also supports the priority of sustaining a universal collection by seeking $500,000 in additional receipts authority to continue implementation of the Copyright Office Electronic Registration, Recordation and Deposit System (CORDS). At the historic signing of the Telecommunications Act in the Library's Main Reading Room on Feb. 8, the Speaker of the House of Representatives again emphasized the Library's importance to the information age. CORDS is an important key to the future growth of the Information Superhighway, because copyright owners need such a system to protect their intellectual property rights. CORDS will allow automated copyright registration and the electronic deposit of works and will provide electronic access to copyright ownership information. The CORDS system is an investment in the continued prosperity of this country and in an efficient copyright system for the 21st century. The software for initial use of the registration testbed system has been completed.

The first electronic submission was received and registration made in the Copyright Office on Feb. 27th. During 1996, additional submissions will be received from a small number of universities and a few publishers. As the registration system is gradu-

ally enlarged and enhanced, we will also be developing plans for a testbed to process copyright ownership transfers electronically.

The largest growing workload increase request for fiscal 1997 is $3,472,782 for security. This requested increase to secure and protect the Library's staff and collections is partially offset by other decreases of $1,060,000 in the furniture and furnishings appropriation. The increase is needed to establish the use of X-ray and metal detector equipment at building entrances (making the Library's buildings consistent with other Capitol Hill buildings), to improve the safety of staff and collections at loading dock entry points, to improve security administration, to increase security personnel presence throughout the Library, and to expand the theft detection and reader registration programs.

Our principal current concern is to protect the collections. During the past three years, since the stacks have been closed to the public, Congress has authorized additional resources to improve collections security measures, including surveillance cameras, antitheft targets in books and security gates at the exits to each building. In September of last year, Congress approved the reprogramming of funds for a contract with Computer Sciences Corp. (CSC) to conduct a comprehensive review of collections security. Subsequently, the Government Accounting Office (GAO) began a management review of the Library, including security. We believe the increase of $3.5 million for security is needed to augment and enhance the Library's current efforts, and we plan to revisit our funding requirements when both the CSC review and the GAO management study are completed.

Two growing workload automation increases are requested to improve the control of and access to our collections. First, $734,000 is requested to begin the electronic conversion of the outmoded and space-consuming 12 million manual card shelflist. This conversion will permit far better control of the Library's entire collection of more than 16 million books and improve the cataloging process. Second, $750,000 is requested for the electronic conversion of serial records into an automated serials management system. The converted file would improve inventory control for serials and service to users. This is especially important for Congress, which seeks timely access to journals.

Arrearage reduction efforts remain a vital part of our second priority. Despite continued reductions in staff, we have continued to reduce arrearage by a dramatic 2.9 million items during fiscal 1995 — achieving a cumulative 43 percent decrease in our backlog since the unprocessed items were first counted and targeted in September 1989. Funding to cover mandatory pay raises is needed so that we can retain staff critical to arrearage reduction. While we will continue to make cataloging and processing efficiencies, and to seek more ways of automating these activities, arrearage reduction work is unavoidably labor intensive, and we have reached the point where any further reductions in staff would slow if not reverse the success of this major effort.

"A private-public partnership for learning is the key strategy for raising the $60 million needed to achieve the National Digital Library's goals."

The Library continues to improve the preservation of its vast and diverse collections, another component of our second priority tasks. Recent improvements include: (1) contracting for a new audio system that will significantly improve our capability for preservation reformatting and for the creation of preservation masters of audio materials; (2) protecting the Library's top treasures by designing and constructing oxygen-free, closed-system display and housing cases and an environmentally stable room in which to store them; (3) developing an emergency preparedness and rapid-response plan for stabilizing and recovering collections in the event of disaster; (4) continuing the testing of the Bookkeeper mass deacidification process and initiating a pilot project that will treat 36,000 books in the general collections in fiscal 1996; (5) increasing the capacity to produce protective book boxes by installing a computer-operated automated box-making machine; (6) contributing to the National Digital Library by initiating procedures for the preparation, treatment and scanning of fragile rare materials; and (7) publishing research results that contribute to the electronic preservation of visual materials. The fiscal 1997 budget supports the preservation program by requesting a price-level increase of $228,900, largely for the binding of materials where steady inflation has eroded purchasing power and now risks leaving some materials unbound and susceptible to loss.

Finally, the Library and the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) are now completing plans for the construction of the first collections storage facility at Fort Meade, Md. Plans call for the initial high-density storage facility, which stores collections in cardboard boxes on wide-span shelving and has uniform environmental conditions throughout, to be ready by mid-1998. The new facility will ensure that the Library's materials are secure and accessible as they grow each year.

3. Make the Library's Collections Maximally Accessible

Congress has extended the services of the Library of Congress to the nation by providing public access to its rich resources through its reading rooms, through interlibrary loan, through a variety of special programs and most recently through electronic access.

Congress also established in 1931 a program in the Library of Congress that creates and supplies free library materials to blind and physically handicapped readers throughout the country. Administered by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, this service actually began in 1897 with the opening of the new Library of Congress building that included a special reading room for blind people. The fiscal 1997 budget request includes a fiscal 1997 growing workload increase of $294,000 for a centralized braille book storage and distribution system. A new system for the storage and distribution of braille books was approved by Congress as part of the fiscal 1996 budget, and additional resources are needed for its implementation. The new system will improve patron services and lower costs for network libraries in participating states.

Congress approved and funded the National Digital Library historical collections program as part of the fiscal 1996 budget. In

a visit to the Library in early February this year, Speaker Gingrich praised this innovative educational use of technology and stated, "The work being done here is truly historic." The Library is on schedule with a plan to digitize and make accessible a critical mass of 5 million items from its core American history collections by the year 2000 — the Library's bicentennial. A private-public partnership for learning is the key strategy for raising the $60 million needed over the five-year period to achieve the goal: $9 million a year from the private sector and $3 million a year from additional federal appropriations. The Library already has **over 500,000**???? digitized items of American history and culture in production or available on the Internet. This month the Library will mount five additional collections on the Internet and add several more later this year. These primary source materials from American history provide valuable content for enriching the education of students and life-long learners. We are testing these electronic materials with educators and librarians, as the new technology enables us to reach libraries, schools and homes all over America.

By providing electronic access to these fascinating primary documents, our vast bibliographic record, recent Library exhibits and the workings of Congress, through THOMAS, we have begun to put information in the hands of the American people wherever they live. The Library has raised $19.2 million in support from the private philanthropic sector in addition to in-kind donations and prospective assurances of more such support for converting the historical collections. Fund-raising efforts continue aggressively in order to help us deliver an ever-increasing amount of material to every congressional district in the union.

Finally, a major component of the Library's third priority is executing a three-year occupancy plan for the renovated Thomas Jefferson and John Adams buildings. In January, we initiated regularly scheduled congressional constituent tours and expanded public tours. Beginning this month, this program will be led by volunteer docents. All of the Jefferson Building reading rooms are scheduled for reopening by the spring of 1997. By the fall of 1997, which will mark the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the Thomas Jefferson Building, the Coolidge Auditorium will also be fully renovated, and we will launch a commemorative concert season.

4. Enhance the Value of the Library's Collections Through Educational Programs

Through our interpretive and educational programs, the Library shares its rich collections of printed books, manuscripts, prints and photographs, maps, sound recordings and films with the nation's citizens. These programs use the resources of the Library to inform and stimulate the public — and now through the Library's World Wide Web site, to bring major exhibits in digital form to people who cannot journey to Washington, D.C. As the fourth priority, however, we have made these programs increasingly dependent on private funding, and Congress has approved our requests in recent years to shift funding to other higher priorities. For example, Congress approved additional funding for the Law Library's GLIN program in fiscal 1996 by reducing funding for interpretive programs.

"The 'internal university' will strengthen and broaden the skills of our existing Library staff."

The Library of Congress and the Thomas Jefferson building in particular, with its breathtaking interior, are among the most inspiring and appreciated sites for visitors to Washington. In time for the Jefferson Building's grand reopening in 1997, we expect to have in place enhanced visitor services maintained by a large cadre of volunteers whom we have been recruiting and training to conduct tours and provide general information at strategically located points. Self-guided tours and an updated film about the Library are also planned.

The opening of a permanent "Treasures of the Library of Congress" exhibit will occur simultaneously with the reopening of the Thomas Jefferson Building. With funding provided by the private sector, this exhibit will enable visitors to see for the first time in the Library's history a wide variety of the inspirational special materials and original documents of American history from the Library's collections. In the future, visitors who have studied or used electronic resources of important documents of American history and culture from our National Digital Library in their own homes or local libraries will be able to see some of the original documents themselves whenever they visit Washington.

The Library's fund-raising has resulted in generous contributions from donors and from the James Madison Council [the Library's private sector advisory group] in support of exhibits, scholarly programs and publications to accomplish the objectives in the Library's fourth priority — stimulating greater interest in, and increased use of, the collections and the facilities by the general public. The recent consolidation of three service units into one brought the interpretive and educational programs together with the areas responsible for the collections, and this integration will lead to more effective exhibit administration in fiscal 1997, funded once again largely by the private sector.

The Enabling Infrastructure

Having defined the priorities of the institution within our overall mission, we are now redefining the infrastructure services needed to ensure the success of priority programs. Without adequate technological support for the legislative information system, the National Digital Library Program or our library services, we will not be able to reach our goals. Without the ability to hire efficiently and to reassign and retrain on-board staff, we will not be able to support our priorities; without modern financial and information systems we will not be able to track our programs and redirect resources as necessary; without developing the mechanisms we need to redistribute our existing spaces according to priorities and to plan for reducing current rental costs, we will not achieve our goals.

For many months now, the Library has been implementing efficiencies that imbue the value of customer satisfaction in each of the four units that comprise our enabling infrastructure. We hope and expect that the General Accounting Office management study, which will incorporate Booz, Allen & Hamilton's review and the Price Waterhouse

audit, will suggest further changes and improvements in the Library's infrastructure.

In the area of human resources, we have been working to improve the timeliness of our hiring process. We have tested a new automated system from the Office of Personnel Management that rates applications through the use of a computer program. Using this program, we eliminated the manual review of applications and were able to hire 39 library technicians within 60 days of the posting of the vacancy. We plan to use this system for other positions.

In both our Labor Relations Office and our Equal Employment Opportunity Complaints and Dispute Resolution Office, we have brought in new and vigorous leadership from outside the Library. As a result, both our dialogue with labor organizations and our timeliness in resolving disputes seem to be gradually improving.

Our current ways of doing business in technology need to be updated. To reach our ambitious goals, some current resources may need to be reallocated according to priority program needs. Customer satisfaction must be reinforced as the central value. A fresh determination must be made of what we can do best internally, what can be done more economically by outsourcing and what programs can be eliminated.

To begin our Library-wide technology review, program and technology managers assessed the Library's current endeavors from both the technology and program perspective and described the obstacles they face under current practices. The Library's Executive Committee confirmed that the Library's automation priorities are (1) for Congress, to develop a legislative information system; a congressional inquiry tracking and management system; and a system to receive electronically laws from foreign countries; (2) for Congress and the nation, an integrated library system, the electronic registration and deposit of copyright materials, and the National Digital Library Program. In addition, we need one Library-wide electronic mail system for our staff. We have commissioned a team to analyze what current resources in the technology and program areas are being used to support our priority programs. This baseline will be used to plan for redirecting existing resources and possibly outsourcing some activities. The Booz Allen & Hamilton report will add value to our own efforts, already begun.

The demands in this area are so great and growing that we will need some additional staff. In order to support fully the development of a legislative information system, we will need four new GS-12 programmer/analyst positions. To sustain the leadership role we have established in providing quality content for the Information Superhighway, we also request two additional staff who will be dedicated to systems programming and network engineering functions. Our existing staff has helped the Library to be at the forefront in the Internet environment, but we have reached the point of overload.

We are undertaking new initiatives to revitalize our training efforts. The "internal university" that I am devising will strengthen and broaden the skills of our existing Library staff. Using a public-private support model, and the leadership of one of our most widely experienced library professionals, we aim both to broaden the staff's vision as they work to reach priority goals and to find new ways to mentor and to retrain our staff for alternative activities and new roles at the Library. I have often said that the Library's staff members are our living treasures. With 27 percent of the work force eligible to retire in the year 2000 and with most recent attrition going unreplaced, we need to develop fully the talents of every individual who works at the Library. We are seeking to develop this program with existing resources and are not asking for additional funding.

"The Library is seeking legislation to establish a statutorily independent inspector general."

One critical infrastructure area is the Office of the Inspector General, where we are requesting a total of five additional staff — one clerical and four professional positions. This is essential if the Library is to be able to sort out on a timely basis the real problems that may exist behind the periodic recurrences of vague and often inaccurate allegations that can attract media attention and public concern, but cannot always be rapidly, professionally investigated with present resources. Three additional professional investigators will enable the IG to execute a proactive plan to monitor and survey the Library's general collections to deter mutilations and theft. These investigators will follow up on the approximately 200 allegations generally received overall by the IG during a year, which we would expect to yield approximately 128 cases. In addition, one auditor/systems specialist is needed to concentrate on threats to the integrity of the Library's invaluable databases from unauthorized users and "hackers" and to permit the office to audit other key elements of our management information systems, particularly in technology and financial services. These additional resources and funds to hire an independent auditing firm will also help the Library to address recommendations from the GAO audit as well as to perform annual financial statement audits comparable to those of other legislative branch agencies.

Finally, we have been making steady progress in our financial management information systems, but we need additional funds to hire four additional professional accountants in order to take the next steps in our multiyear financial implementation plan, to respond to the recommendations anticipated from the audit of the Library's financial systems and to continue annual financial statement audits.

Proposed Legislation

The Library is seeking legislation to establish a statutorily independent inspector general and to make needed improvements in its financial management to comply fully with the recommendation in a 1991 GAO audit report that we establish a revolving fund to service Library programs now supported by large gift revolving funds and reimbursable programs.

We also seek to work with Congress in order to modernize and clarify legislative authority written in 1902 concerning selling cataloging data to libraries across the nation; to authorize the Library to retain, rather than turn over to the Treasury, income from the sale of limited surplus materials and restitution for lost, stolen or destroyed materials from the collections; and to make technical changes in the operation of the Trust Fund Board. No new government pro-

grams or activities will be proposed in the revolving fund legislation or in the other legislative authority we are seeking. The Library would submit audited financial statements annually to Congress for the revolving fund, and the fund's obligations would be subject to the annual appropriation process.

Finally, we are working cooperatively with the U.S. Capitol Police in connection with their study (as directed by House Report 104-141, p. 19) to determine the extent to which the police and security of the United States Capitol, the Library of Congress, and the United States Supreme Court can be combined into a unified operation under a single command utilizing common personnel. One police force could enhance the security of Congress's library, including its visitors and staff, buildings and collections, but the transition would need to be carefully planned and implemented.

Reauthorization of Programs

The Library is seeking reauthorization of two programs — the American Folklife Center (AFC) and the National Film Preservation Board (NFPB). The AFC authorization expired Sept. 30, 1995, and the Library is seeking a four-year authorization of its proven AFC program with no growing workload increases.

For the NFPB, the authorization will expire in June 1996, and the Library is seeking a 10-year authorization at the current budget level, $250,000. The NFPB reauthorization legislation also seeks new authority for the establishment of a National Film Preservation Foundation to encourage contributions from the private sector for film preservation. The NFPB reauthorization request is based upon a comprehensive study, *Redefining Film Preservation: A National Plan*, that was released in August 1994. This study was mandated by Congress in the National Film Preservation Act of 1992, and its recommendations were presented to the Librarian of Congress through the congressionally created National Film Preservation Board. Five working groups of archivists, educators, filmmakers, industry executives and others had participated in an earlier fact-finding study that prepared the basis for the comprehensive national preservation policy recommended in the milestone 1994 study, which will be supported by this foundation.

The Library has also launched a complementary, follow-on study of the preservation problems facing American television and radio. The American Television and Radio Archives Act of 1976 (Section 113, 2 U.S.C. 170) authorized the Librarian to establish and maintain a "permanent record of the television and radio programs which are the heritage of the people of the United States . . . after consultation with interested organizations and individuals." Formal consultations on the long-overdue implementation of this congressional mandate begin tomorrow with a hearing in Los Angeles featuring witnesses representing the industry, archival and educational communities. Television provides an important part of the recent American historical record, and the Library needs to relate its large collections in this area to an overall strategy as it has done in the case of movies. The Library will complete this preservation plan by the end of this year.

"The profusion of knowledge and information in the world, and of new formats and media, requires a diverse and skilled group of 'knowledge navigators.'"

Summary

As stated at the beginning of this testimony, the Library is a unique institution within the legislative branch of the government. The Library's collections and staff are a major national resource for the information age. Congress is already, through its library, demonstrating leadership in making available to schools, libraries and individuals a core documentary record of American history and culture. As the historic home of the Copyright Office, the Library of Congress both protects intellectual property and preserves the mint record of America's creativity — in response to the mandate given to Congress in Article I Section 8 of the Constitution "to promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts."

As I look to the future, I believe that it is my responsibility to underscore the dangers posed by the prospect of continuing "level budgets." Using Congressional Budget Office assumptions about inflation and mandatory pay increases, we project that the Library's budget would have to grow to some $435 million by the year 2002 just to maintain current services. This would represent an increase of 19 percent or some $62 million in today's dollars. Since the Library's services are extremely labor intensive (some 70 percent of our budget is for payroll costs), a nominally level budget, in reality, means continued reductions in staff beyond the 8 percent loss of staff we have absorbed since 1992. Continued level budgets, therefore, will inevitably produce a fundamentally different Library of Congress, even if a level budget might genuinely represent relatively generous treatment compared to that accorded to the legislative branch as a whole. Without inflationary increases each fiscal year, the Library's budget would lose the resources to support over 1,000 positions by the year 2002 — and would have to absorb a 24 percent decrease in FTEs on top of the 8 percent already cut since 1992.

If required to plan for continued nominally level budgets, our priorities would require us, first and fairly rapidly, to begin reducing public programs including public reading room access, public reference support, public access to the Library's buildings and to reduce further, if not eliminate altogether, exhibits and other outreach programs. If level budgets continued, we would then have to curtail our national leadership role in cataloging — at great cost to the nation's libraries as a whole and to our own reduction of arrearages. We would continue to maintain a universal collection, but access to our materials would diminish because of cataloging backlogs and reduced reading room hours. Significant reductions in our already seriously reduced acquisitions would be the final step — and would rapidly foreclose many of the unique advances in knowledge which the Library's resources could provide Congress and the nation in the future.

Faithful to our first priority, we would maintain until the end critical congressional services by shifting resources away from national services and even acquisitions. But the Library would slowly and inevitably become simply an ordering library for the

perceived present needs of Congress rather than the extraordinary national resource for the whole country that it now is. It would rapidly cease to be a strategic information reserve for the American future — with an almost infinite number of potential uses we cannot even imagine today.

The very profusion of knowledge and information in the world and of new formats and media of communication requires a diverse and skilled group of "knowledge navigators" and will permit little, if any, diminution in the overall size of the Library staff. I believe that the continued erosion of Library staff and services as a result of level budgets would be a profound loss to the nation, and I respectfully request your support of the Library's fiscal 1997 budget request to prevent such an occurrence.

Two-thirds of our requested increase is required simply to meet mandatory changes in personnel compensation and benefits and unavoidable price-level changes in costs for existing levels of service. The money requested for mandatory pay increases is equivalent to supporting nearly 200 positions, and it is needed to prevent further cuts in Library services and staff.

We have effected a number of cutbacks, efficiencies and privatizations in the last four years; from 1992 to 1995 alone, the Library has reduced its actual FTEs by 369 — an 8 percent decrease. We are working on ways to do more, but it does not appear likely that they will provide very large-scale monetary savings from the legislative branch appropriations. The only ways that major savings could be made are by either fundamentally changing the nature of the Library, or by spinning off from the legislative to the executive branch some activities that the Library currently conducts. But rearrangements of the latter type would, of course, produce no real savings to the taxpayer.

The Copyright Office has sometimes been mentioned as a potential transfer, but it could not be separated from the Library without irreparable loss to the collections. When the deposit and registration functions under the copyright law were kept separate for 80 years beginning in 1790, very little material was accumulated for the nation, let alone transferred to the Library. Only when the copyright system was centralized in the Library of Congress after 1870 did the nation begin to gather together and the Library to amass and make accessible a comprehensive collection based on this mint record of American intellectual creativity. Separation of these copyright functions did not work in the past, and it will not work now.

The annual copyright deposits, consisting of books, newspapers, magazines, newsletters, CD-ROMs, music, drama, maps, prints and photographs, manuscripts, sound recordings, computer programs, television programs and motion pictures, which are now acquired free by the Library, are valued at $20 million annually. The actual cost to the Library would be even greater if the copyright registration function were transferred. The economies developed in the last 125 years are such that both the Library and the Copyright Office would face significant and immediate new costs even beyond the purchase price. A great deal of staff time would be required to identify newly published works, select them, order and pay for them — and also to administer the compliance provisions of the copyright law.

Finally, Congress recognized that the National Digital Library Program was a way to deliver back into every congressional district a large part of what Congress's library has accumulated over the years here in Washington. This program proved its educational value in the five-year American Memory pilot in 44 sites around the country; it has now attracted major and increasing private support because of Congress's endorsement and support; and it is catalytically accelerating the pace and refining the techniques of the electronic processing of information, which the Library will in any case have to develop in the digital age. However, the NDL is a priority-three program, and it would therefore be put in jeopardy if level budgets continue. As a result, this promising new type of public-private partnership, in which the private sector contributes most of the funding, could be discredited — and the prospects for future private fund-raising for the Library deeply and perhaps irreparably undermined.

The Library of Congress has far more relentlessly inflexible requirements for both input and output than most government service organizations in the information business. Many other institutions can limit their acquisition of current materials without jeopardizing their basic ability to function. But the Library would lose most of its distinctive usefulness to Congress if it had to stop or defer acquiring periodicals or current monographs for even a single year — and most of these items could never be acquired later. Many other institutions can effect economies by regulating their output of services and reports, but the Library must provide continuous, timely information to Congress and continuously sustain and catalog a comprehensive collection, which accounts for its largely irreducible annual budget.

As the president stated in the fiscal 1997 budget: "The nation has entered a period of profound change — from an economy based on traditional manufacturing to one based on information — the most profound change since the transformation from agriculture to manufacturing a century ago."

The Speaker of the House also noted in a visit to the Library last year, "In a world that is shrinking, in an information age . . . the Library of Congress is the seminal knowledge dissemination system on the planet." He further stressed the enabling importance of providing electronic access to this Library "to every child in America, in every school in America, no matter how rural, no matter how poor." At the Telecommunications Act signing, the Speaker added that the Library "has been a leader on a world basis in knitting together" [through its National Digital Library Program].

Future generations will not forgive us if we fail to seize this opportunity to make accessible the Library's unique and useful materials at precisely the moment when its technological capabilities to expand services are enjoying such enthusiastic support. We believe Congress should sustain its investment and not let erode away what it has so wisely created and sustained for 196 years.

Contrary to popular opinion, it was inadvertent, gradual erosion not the celebrated fire that finally destroyed the world's first storehouse of universal knowledge in antiquity: the great Library at Alexandria —hastening humanity's descent into the Dark Ages. We cannot let this happen to the Library of Congress, the Alexandria library of the modern world.

For fiscal 1997 we submit a budget request that will enable us to continue to make the distinctive major contributions that only this Library can make to Congress and the American people.

I will be happy to answer your questions.

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